REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated April 17, 2008, claims 4, 7-13 and 15-16 were rejected. Claims 7, 14 and 15 have been amended. Claim 13 has been added.

I. §102 Rejection

The Office rejected Claims 4, 7-13 and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yuen et al (US 5,488,409). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Independent claims 7 and 15, recite a method of recording a digital data, comprising, among other elements, using an index to store different addresses of the memory for each of a plurality of sequential frames of the data in a digital format; and looping the data on the memory automatically by overwriting a portion of at least one of the memory data and the memory addresses.

Yuen, on the other hand, teaches a video tape player, which records video using a completely different method from recording a digital data. A video tape player such as Yuen's uses a linear method of recording to store information onto a magnetic tape, whereas digital recording uses a non-linear method of recording to store information in digital format onto a disk drive.

Yuen also fails teach or suggest a recording method that loops the data on the memory automatically by overwriting a portion of at least one of the memory data and the memory addresses as recited in claims 7 and 15. Instead, when a user wishes to record, Yuen searches the tape for a segment whose length is greater than or equal to the length of the segment the user wishes to record (See Yuen C49/ L1-19). After performing the search, Yuen displays an index of the contents of the tape and prompts the user to select which segment to record over. Yuen does not begin to record until it receives an input from the user. Yuen's method clearly does not teach or suggest any sort of automatic looping for non-stop recording.

Finally, Yuen fails to teach or suggest providing a loop remnant directory to determine a changing deallocation point also recited in claims 7 and 14. This novel aspect of the recording process is essential to the automatic looping. For example, when frames on the disk have been overwritten, but their corresponding indices have not, the recording process will deallocate those indices so that the index contains addresses that align with the start of the frames on the disk.

Having a deallocation point allows the recording to refer to the oldest recorded frame on the disk and allows the looping process to continue while still providing seamless random access capability. Yuen does not teach or even suggest a loop remnant directory to determine a changing deallocation point, nor does it teach or suggest automatically overwriting frames based on the date they were recorded.

Claims 4, 8-14, and 16 are allowable not only for their dependence on allowable base claims 7 and 15, but also because they recite novel limitations not disclosed by the prior art.

Request For Allowance

Claims 4 and 7-16 are pending in this application. The applicant requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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